

Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 03474 270841Z

12-S

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 INR-07 PM-03 SS-15 DODE-00 NSC-05

/043 W

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R 261346Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4688

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 3474

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, JO, IS, PLO

SUBJECT: FIRING ON ISRAEL-JORDAN BORDER

REF: TEL AVIV 3037

USDAO TEL AVIV 0886

1. IN COURSE OF LONG HOLIDAY WEEKEND WE HAVE TALKED INFORMALLY WITH SENIOR JORDANIANS ABOUT CROSS BORDER FIRING (REFTELS). THIS INCLUDES PRIME MINISTER AND CHIEF OF STAFF LT. GEN. ZAID BIN SHAKER.

2. SHAKER AT FIRST (MORNING, MAY 23) WAS UNINFORMED OF FIRING. SUBSEQUENTLY, HE SAID NO FIRING HAD COME FROM JORDANIAN SIDE. PRESUME THIS REFERS ONLY TO JAF ALTHOUGH HE ADDED HE HAD NO REPORT ALSO OF FEDAYEEN ACTIVITY. HE INDICATED THAT THERE WERE BRUSH FIRES BURNING IN THE AREA OF THE ROTHENBURG PROJECT, A LONG DISUSED POWER DAM AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE YARMUK AND JORDAN RIVERS, INCLUDING ON AN ISLAND IN THE AREA WHICH JORDAN CLAIMS, BUT DOES NOT OCCUPY.

3. COMMENT: JORDANIANS AT LEAST SUSPECT THAT THIS
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PAGE 02 AMMAN 03474 270841Z

INCIDENT, WITH ITS ATTENDANT PUBLICITY IS PART OF THE

RECENT WAR OF WORDS ON THIS FRONT. THEY HAVE
HOWEVER CHOSEN TO COOL IT AND TO OUR KNOWLEDGE HAVE
NOT PUBLICIZED THE INCIDENT IN THE LOCAL PRESS. NOT
IMPOSSIBLE OF COURSE THAT FEDAYEEN COULD HAVE CREATED
INCIDENT BY FIRING ACROSS BORDER ALTHOUGH JORDANIANS
SEEM TO HAVE STEPPED UP ANTI-INFILTRATION ACTIVITY AND
APPEAR TO BE DETERMINED TO KEEP BORDER COOL.
PICKERING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: COMBAT OPERATIONS, BORDER INCIDENTS
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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05 JUL 2006

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